

Washington, DC -- Congresswoman Linda Sánchez (D-Lakewood) joined 16 of her colleagues to found the Congressional LGBT Equality Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives today. The Congresswoman will serve as a vice chair of the caucus.

Today's announcement follows years of Congresswoman Sánchez fighting for equality. During years of Republican control of Congress, she successfully fought back attempts to amend the U.S. Constitution to ban same-sex marriage. Since the new Democratic Congress was sworn in last year, she has been on the front lines working to pass legislation combating hate crimes and banning workplace discrimination. Congresswoman Sánchez strongly supports the California State Supreme Court's recent ruling allowing gay marriage.

"If we truly believe in the nation's founding documents then lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered individuals deserve equal rights," Congresswoman Linda Sánchez said. "Every American knows, deep down, that to deny another citizen the rights promised by our constitution is wrong."

The LGBT Equality Caucus is chaired by openly gay Representatives Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Barney Frank (D-MA).

"LGBT equality is a moral obligation," Congresswoman Sánchez said. "There is hard work to be done to fulfill that obligation. This caucus will be dedicated to that effort."